

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

April 2001

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

NEW MEXICO Southeast

NMZ028>029 Eddy County Plains - Northern Lea County

06	1350MST				0	10	600K		High Wind (G61)
	1401MST								

NEW MEXICO Southeast

A strong upper level storm system moving across the area produced strong gradient winds across southeast New Mexico during the afternoon of April 6. Wind gusts in excess of 70 mph at times resulted in a six vehicle accident on Highway 2 north of the city of Artesia and a four vehicle accident on Highway 285 north of the city of Artesia minutes later. The wind snapped large tree branches and electric power lines. The wind was also responsible for disrupting cable television transmitters and also for blowing a parking canopy support through the windshield of a pickup truck. In Carlsbad, winds as high as 67 mph blew down a 60 foot Arizona Cypress tree and caused major roof damage to a greenhouse.

Eddy County Carlsbad

21	1900MST				0	0	20K		Dry Microburst
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A dry microburst resulted in damage to a metal storage building and also to several sheds in the city of Carlsbad.

TEXAS West

TXZ058-075 Reeves County And Upper Trans Pecos - Pecos

10	1645CST				1	3	1.5M		High Wind (G62)
	2100CST								

Strong gradient winds behind a cold front produced blowing dust, and visibilities near zero. This caused numerous accidents on area interstates and state highways during the evening hours of 4/10/01. One fatality and three injuries were reported.

A nine vehicle accident occurred at approximately 5:00 pm CST on 4/10/01 in the eastbound lanes of Interstate 20 at mile marker 37.5 (approximately four miles west of Pecos in Reeves county). With zero visibility due to strong winds and blowing dust, the driver of one tractor trailer stopped on the side of the road and was rear-ended by a second tractor trailer. The two tractor trailers became engulfed in fire. There was a chain reaction collision of the remaining seven vehicles. Passerbys were unable to rescue the driver of the second tractor trailer, who expired at the scene. There were two other injuries.

Another multiple vehicle accident occurred at approximately 6:00 pm CST on 4/10/01 in the westbound lanes of Interstate 10 at mile marker 225 (approximately 17 miles east of Balmorhea near the Pecos/Reeves county line). Four tractor trailers were involved in the accident, which resulted in both the westbound and eastbound lanes of Interstate 10 being closed and one person being injured.

Other vehicle collisions occurred across Reeves County in near zero visibilities due to high winds and blowing dust. A truck and a car were involved in a non-injury accident on Interstate 20 at mile marker 38. A school bus and a car also collided on Highway 17, in a non-injury accident between the communities of Balmorhea and Saragosa.

Other effects of the high winds were 27 downed power poles in Pecos and Reeves County, 16 of them along Highway 17 between Saragosa and Verhalen. Over 3000 customers in Toyah, Fort Stockton, and Kermit were without power for part of the evening of April 10 due to damage caused by high winds in excess of 70 mph.

F42VE

Pecos County

6 W Bakersfield	14	1620CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
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Hail was reported by a DPS trooper on Interstate 10 between mile marker 300 and 305.

Pecos County

Iraan	14	1625CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
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Glasscock County

5 E Garden City	16	1748CST			0	0			Hail (2.00)
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Glasscock County

5 E Garden City	16	1800CST			0	0			Flood
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Flooding was reported on Highway 158 east of Garden City.

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Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
Howard County Big Spring	16	1805CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
		Tree uprooted							
Howard County 7 N Big Spring	16	1813CST			0	0			Hail (0.88)
Howard County Big Spring	16	1826CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Howard County Big Spring	16	1830CST 1845CST			0	0	500K		Hail (2.50)
A severe thunderstorm moved across the eastern portions of the city of Big Spring, producing golfball to baseball size hail and 40-50 mph winds over approximately a one mile stretch of land. It is estimated that 400 cars sustained hail damage.									
Glasscock County 16 NNE Garden City	16	1900CST 2000CST			0	0			Flood
Glasscock County 16 NNE Garden City	16	1900CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Howard County Forsan	16	1900CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)

Severe thunderstorms developed during the evening across eastern portions of the Texas Permian Basin. These thunderstorms developed along and north of a southward advancing cold front. Radar indicated that these severe thunderstorms did have significant mid-level mesocyclones. Because of northwest flow aloft, the general movement was southeast.